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of this fact, the health authorities of Guayaquil have closed that port to all vessels arriving from the south, such vessels not being allowed to enter the port, and therefore do not receive the second disinfection at Guayaquil.

Assistant Surgeon Lloyd is disinfecting these vessels at Callao, and, in order to interfere with commerce as little as possible, and at the same time to afford all possible protection to Panama, in view of the absence of any quarantine equipment at this port, we have instructed the steamship agents not to permit their vessels to call at Payta. A circular letter was issued by Assistant Surgeon Pierce, after consultation with me, for the purpose of regulating the cargo taken on at ports between Callao and Payta, and recommending that no passengers be taken from these intermediate ports on account of the absence of accurate information concerning their sanitary condition, and the possibility of these places being infected. This does not constitute a material hardship to the steamship companies, because few passengers are embarked at these ports and the bulk of the cargo taken is of such character that it may be considered safe.

A study of the plague situation on the west coast of South America shows a serious condition which menaces Panama. This fact can not be too strongly emphasized, and the installation of some quarantine facilities for the protection of this port should receive immediate consideration. If an infected vessel should arrive, the treatment must necessarily be incomplete and unsatisfactory. In view of the above I earnestly recommend the installation of a disinfecting plant and other quarantine equipment at Panama as soon as possible.

Report from Panama—Inspection of vessel—Mortality.

Assistant Surgeon Pierce reports, June 13, as follows:

Transactions for the week ended June 12, 1904. One vessel, the Pacific mail steamer *Acapulco*, cleared for San Francisco on June 8, having on board officers and crew, 72; cabin passengers, 16; steerage passengers, 8; total, 96. All well.

During the week there were 20 deaths from all causes, as follows: Fevers, 2; old age, 1; colic, 1; bronchitis, 2; dropsy, 1; dysentery, 2; tuberculosis, 2; beriberi, 1; stillborn, 3; apoplexy, 1; insanity, 1; ulcers, 1; alcoholism, 1; whooping cough 1.

Rules for vessels destined for Panama from ports on the west coast of South America.

The following circulars are received from Assistant Surgeon Pierce through Surgeon Perry:

CIRCULAR No. 1.

PANAMA, REPUBLIC OF PANAMA,
June 11, 1904.

To the agents of the Pacific Steam Navigation Company (England), *Compañía Sud América de Vapores* (Chilean), *Pacific Mail Steamship Company* (American).

SIR: You are hereby requested to promulgate the rules given below to the masters of the vessels of your company:

(1) Precautions should be taken in every South American port to prevent stowaways coming on board vessels.

(2) If stowaways are found on board after leaving a port the presence of such stowaway shall be reported to the officer of the United States Public Health and

Marine Hospital Service at the ports of Callao, Guayaquil, or Panama, if the vessel enters these ports with one or more stowaways on board.

(3) During the time vessels are in the Bay of Panama or at the wharf at Panama all cases of sickness among the crew or passengers shall be reported at once to the quarantine officer at Panama, and if the patient is ill enough to be sent ashore to a hospital or residence, the address must be given.

Respectfully,

CLAUDE C. PIERCE,

Assistant Surgeon, U. S. P. H. and M. H. S., Quarantine Officer at Panama.

CIRCULAR No. 2.

UNITED STATES PUBLIC HEALTH AND MARINE-HOSPITAL SERVICE,
OFFICE OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER IN COMMAND,
Panama, Republic of Panama, June 10.

To agents of Pacific Steam Navigation Co. and the Compania Sud America de Vapores.

SIR: In view of the fact that bubonic plague is gradually infecting the ports on the west coast of South America, the following rules should be observed by the vessels of your company in order to avoid infection and consequent detention at the ports of Panama.

(1) All ports between Callao and Guayaquil should be regarded as suspicious, and every precaution should be taken to prevent vessels becoming infected through the agency of rats, flies, ants, fleas, and other animals. At such ports vessels should not lie at wharves nor anchor near the shore nor near any place where such animals can gain access to the vessel. The introduction of vermin on board from the lighters should be guarded against.

(2) Ports between Callao and Guayaquil, reported as infected, should be omitted from the itinerary.

(3) At all intermediate ports between Callao and Guayaquil communication between the vessel and the shore should be reduced to a minimum. Only the captain, the purser, and the freight clerk should be allowed ashore for the dispatch of business, and only during the day. Must not remain ashore during the night.

(4) Household goods, personal effects, bedding, and second-hand goods generally should not be accepted as freight or baggage. All rags and textile fabrics used in the manufacture of paper, new feathers, human or other hair, bristles, wool, hides not chemically cured, should be refused at all ports between Callao and Guayaquil.

NOTE.—New merchandise can be accepted at these ports except as itemized above.

(5) No passengers should be accepted at ports between Callao and Guayaquil on account of the probability that such ports are now infected and passengers embarking having probably been exposed.

If the above rules are observed and a complete disinfection can be made at Callao, the period of seven days will be started from the disinfection at that port.

Respectfully,

CLAUDE C. PIERCE,

Assistant Surgeon, U. S. P. H. and M. H. S., Quarantine Officer at Panama.

Report from Bocos del Toro, fruit port.

Acting Assistant Surgeon Osterhout reports as follows: Week ended June 9, 1904. Present officially estimated population not obtainable; 1 death, from tuberculosis; prevailing diseases, malarial. General sanitary condition of this port and the surrounding country during the week, good.

Bills of health were issued to the following-named vessels:

Date.	Vessel.	Destination.	Number of crew.	Number of passengers from this port.	Number of passengers in transit.	Pieces of baggage.
June 3	Harald	Mobile, Ala.....	20	2	0	2
5	Preston.....	New Orleans, La..	29	0	0	0
8	Belvernnon.....	Mobile, Ala.....	20	4	0	10
9	Fort Gainesdo	22	0	0	0